



Missouri Department of Transportation Freight Development Unit

Missouri River Freight Development Action Summary

August 26, 2010

Over 65 Missouri River stakeholders attended one of the three Missouri River Freight Development meetings held across the state last week. The meetings were held in Kansas City on Monday the 16th, Jefferson City on Tuesday the 17th, and in St. Louis on Friday, August 20th.



Shippers, barge lines, ag producers, developers and representatives from numerous industries and agencies were on hand at the meetings to help formulate the industry's development plans for the Missouri River corridor. The attendees provided their perspectives on the use of the river and also supplied additional contacts and leads for the project team to follow-up on. Representatives from the USACE were invited and provided a brief overview of their progress with the MRAPS effort.

After discussing the timeline and approach to complete the development project, attendees were asked to provide input on the challenges and opportunities to re-developing the Missouri River. Categories of challenges and opportunities that have been identified and included for consideration so far include: Market & Commodity Oriented, Infrastructure, Navigation, Operations, and Environmental.

What is next?

On behalf of MoDOT and Hanson Professional Services, we appreciate your participation in formulating strategies to re-develop the Missouri River as a freight corridor. In the near future, many of you will receive a set of questionnaires to capture your thoughts on re-developing the Missouri. Others of you may receive a phone call or request for a personal, on-site visit. I hope you'll take Hanson up on the invitation to participate.

Over the winter, Hanson will dig through the shipping data, visit and talk to many of you, and in general work with the waterways industry and the related supply chain to develop strategies to get more freight on the river. Then we plan to re-convene this group in the spring to present the findings and get your participation with the industry-driven strategies to re-develop this corridor.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to make a comment, please send me an email or give me a call.

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